

News from Ed Markey

United States Congress

Massachusetts Seventh District

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July 21, 2005

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REP. MARKEY ASKS DHS FOR ANSWERS ON BORDER SECURITY

More evidence emerges in chainsaw murder case; suspect and bloody weapons passed freely over U.S. border in Maine

Washington, DC: Today, prosecutors announced that the blood of a decapitated Canadian country musician was found on the clothes of Gregory Despres, the 22-year old chainsaw-and-hatchet-toting man who crossed over the U.S. Canadian border before he was arrested in Mattapoisett, Massachusetts on April 27, 2005. Following the border incident, Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA), a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, and Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA), a member of the House Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Affairs, sent a letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff seeking answers on why Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors at the Calais, Maine border crossing permitted an individual convicted of assault and carrying a cache of weapons to enter the United States in April but have yet to receive any response to their queries about border security.

“It’s outrageous that a chainsaw-toting convicted criminal falsely claiming to be a Marine working on President Bush’s security detail was allowed to enter the United States. The bizarre story he spun for Customs inspectors at the border should have raised enough suspicions to prompt inspectors either to arrest him or deny him entry into the United States. We were fortunate that this individual was not a terrorist determined to attack our country and that he was apprehended in Massachusetts before he could cause further harm,” Rep. Markey said.

“I am still waiting for a response to my request for an investigation into this disturbing case and a review of entry procedures in place at the border. Giving the green light to this deranged individual to enter our country raises serious questions about these procedures, which should be adjusted to prevent a recurrence of such an incident in the future,” Rep. Markey concluded.

For a copy of the letter, please visit www.house.gov/markey
